

October 2013 Minutes

Assorted intrepid Weeders made the great journey to Center City for a meeting at the Fidler Square home of Sandy Cadwalader. These bold pioneers consisted of Hostesses Wendy Calhoun, Regina Wagner and Anne Rhoads. President Linda Anderson thanked them all! Weeder members in attendance were Jackie Burke, Lorraine Wallace, Beth Bartle, Cheryl Cheston, Marilyn Sprague, Maria Thompson, Ellie Penniman, Nancy Evans, Polly Garnett, Weezie Johnston, Karen Doyle, and Biddie Edwards.

Linda asked for approval of the September Minutes with the correction that Christmas sales average \$1100-1200, not the “padded” figures that appeared in those minutes. Moved, seconded and approved with the correction.

Announcements:

Seed Exchange: There is still time to participate in the Seed Exchange to take place at the Shirley Meniece Conference in Washington. Please give seeds to Lorraine or Lloyd Brown (and thanks to Polly, Alice, Lorraine, Nancy Miller and Linda for donating seeds from their gardens).

Hort Workshop: There will be a Conifer Workshop and visit to Ridge Goodwin’s farm in Bucks County on Wednesday, October 16. RSVP to Diane McCallister

Ronald McDonald Flower Arranging: Wendy Bailey will host the arranging workshop at home on Monday, October 21. RSVP to Wendy Bailey

Magnolia Tribute Garden Work Morning: Our turn to help on Wednesday, October 23 at 10 a.m. RSVP to Linda Anderson.

Speaker Series of the Trustees for the Parks: Lloyd and Thacher Brown and Sarah and Phil Price are hosting the evening talk on Wednesday, October 30 at 6 p.m. at the Waterworks. Subject of evening will be “National Parks and Hydraulic Fracking.” RSVP to: www.npca.org/speaker

Sandy introduced Grace Wicks whose business, “Graceful Gardens” specializes in urban gardening. Sandy has known Grace since birth, and has watched as her business has taken off and helped to beautify the city. Grace gave a charming talk about how she developed her business, of her passion for gardening and of the astonishing variety of challenges posed by gardening in high-rises, street level, and the enclosed city gardens with varying micro-climates, winds, sun angles, etc. Grace is donating her honorarium of \$100 to the Urban Nutrition Initiative, connected to the University of Pennsylvania.

Sandy also invited a neighbor, Betsy Alexander, to attend our meeting. Betsy won first prize last year in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's City Gardens Container Competition. She was also featured recently in the Inquirer article by Virginia Smith on her city gardening. Betsy walked the wondering Weeders through her myriad separate container gardens, lining large portions of a half block of 23rd Street and East and West along Naudain Street! She has a hose 150 feet long and during hot spells will water several hours a day!

Following a yummy lunch at Sandy's after the tour, the remaining Weeders struck out again seeing some of Grace's projects and generally enjoyed the serendipitous surprises of planters, window boxes and in one case, exuberant vertical hanging gardening!

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Cadwalader

Secretary